



NOTICE OF INTENT TO PETITION THE HIGHLANDS COUNCIL FOR PLAN CONFORMANCE

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act), N.I.S.A. 13:20-1 *et seq.*, finds and declares that protection of the New Jersey Highlands is an issue of State level importance because of its vital link to the future of the State's drinking water supplies and other key natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act creates a coordinated land use planning system requiring the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council) to prepare and adopt a Regional Master Plan for the Highlands Region and requiring that within nine to 15 months after September 8, 2008 each county and municipality located wholly or partially in the Preservation Area must submit a Petition for Plan Conformance to the Highlands Council for that portion of its jurisdiction lying within the Preservation Area;

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act specifies that conformance with the Regional Master Plan (Plan Conformance) requires revisions to municipal and county master plans and development regulations as applicable to the development and use of land to align them with the goals, requirements, and provisions of the Regional Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Highland's Council Plan Conformance Guidelines require that for jurisdictions with any lands in the Preservation Area, a Notice of Intent to conform to the Regional Master Plan must be submitted to the Highlands Council as soon as practicable, but not later than December 8, 2009 and that for any lands in the Planning Area, a Notice of Intent may be submitted at any time; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon lies within the Highlands Region as defined by the Highlands Act; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Vernon believes that it is in the best interest of the Township of Vernon to conform to the Regional Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Vernon, hereby provides the Highlands Council with the Notice of Intent to petition the Highlands Council for Plan Conformance for all lands lying within the Preservation Area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Notice of Intent specifies that the Township Council of the Township of Vernon intends to include all lands lying within the Planning Area in the petition. In accordance with the Highlands Council's Plan Conformance Guidelines, this Notice of Intent is not binding with respect to lands within the Planning Area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Notice of Intent provides notice to the Highlands Council that the Township Council of the Township of Vernon will file submission of a Petition for Plan Conformance no later than December 8, 2009.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above resolution is a true copy of the resolution adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon at their Regular Meeting held on Thursday, November 13, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Vernon Municipal Center.

Robin R. Kline, MAS, RMC

Municipal Clerk